

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 05-81165

KHAOPHONE SYCHANTHA,

Defendant.

**JURY TRIAL - VOLUME 1 (EXCERPT)
BEFORE THE HONORABLE SEAN F. COX**

United States District Judge
Theodore Levin United States Courthouse
231 West Lafayette Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan
Thursday, October 10, 2024

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

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1 Detroit, Michigan

2 Thursday, October 10, 2024

3 9:24 a.m.

4 * * *

5 THE CLERK: All rise.

6 The United States District Court for the Eastern
7 District of Michigan is in session. The Honorable Sean Cox
8 presiding.

9 You can be seated.

10 The Court calls Case Number 05-81165, United
11 States of America versus Khaophone Sychantha.

12 Counsel, can I have appearances, please?

13 MR. NORWOOD: Good morning, your Honor. Jason
14 Norwood on behalf of the United States.

15 THE COURT: Good morning.

16 MR. MARTIN: Good morning, your Honor. Patrick
17 Martin for the United States.

18 THE COURT: Good morning as well.

19 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: Good morning. Khaophone
20 Sychantha.

21 MR. STEINGOLD: Good morning, your Honor. David
22 Steingold. I want to advise the Court, I have my assistant
23 coming in to work the computer. She was actually out
24 shopping for clothes -- to try to get some clothes for my
25 client. She'll be --

1 THE COURT: Looks pretty good.

2 MR. STEINGOLD: Pardon me?

3 THE COURT: Looks pretty good right now.

4 MR. STEINGOLD: He does. I told him he can't
5 outdress me, but he went ahead and did it anyway.

6 THE COURT: The jury is ready to be brought up.
7 My understanding, Mr. Sychantha has a motion.

8 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: Yes.

9 I have a motion for counsel.

10 THE COURT: Motion for what?

11 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: Counsel.

12 THE COURT: You have standby counsel.

13 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: I know, but I want somebody
14 to represent me. I just want one under my file.

15 THE COURT: We went through that issue before.

16 Noted.

17 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: All right. Can I hand in to
18 the Court anyway?

19 THE COURT: Of course you can.

20 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: Yes. Here.

21 THE CLERK: I'll take it.

22 THE COURT: And again, at any point during the
23 jury selection, you have Mr. Steingold, a very, very, very
24 experienced lawyer. You can consult with him. And if you
25 wish, he can step in and ask questions for you as well.

1 DEFENDANT SYCHANTHA: Yes, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay. Jen, I'm ready whenever the
3 jury comes up.

4 THE CLERK: Okay. Court is in recess.

5 (Off the record at 9:27 a.m.)

6 (Jury selection held.)

7 (Back on the record at 1:33 p.m.)

8 THE COURT: You have the schedule, trial schedule,
9 right?

10 MR. NORWOOD: Yes, your Honor.

11 MR. STEINGOLD: Yes, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: So we'll argue the two motions in
13 limine at 9:00 tomorrow. It shouldn't last very long. I
14 think I'm pretty prepared for the motions in limine, but I
15 want everybody here at 8:30, okay?

16 MR. NORWOOD: Yes, your Honor.

17 MR. STEINGOLD: Yes, your Honor.

18 MR. NORWOOD: Your Honor, just a couple questions.
19 As far as when we're doing exam and opening
20 statements and closing arguments, do you want us to do it
21 from the table or do you want the podium?

22 THE COURT: What do you guys think?

23 Marshals?

24 MARSHAL: I would prefer at the table just because

25 --

1 THE COURT: Can you live with at the table?

2 MR. NORWOOD: We can do it, your Honor. We'll
3 make it work.

4 THE COURT: All right. Got it.

5 MR. STEINGOLD: Thank you, your Honor.

6 MR. NORWOOD: And then, your Honor, as far as the
7 physical exhibits, we're going to show those to
8 Mr. Sychantha after we're done today and we're going to
9 bring them in for him to see.

10 THE COURT: Yes, use his time.

11 MR. NORWOOD: Thank you, your Honor.

12 You have one more thing, Pat?

13 THE COURT: You can have the courtroom as long as
14 you want.

15 MR. NORWOOD: Thank you, your Honor.

16 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, just one last thing.

17 We do have the compulsion order application with
18 the Court, and if the Court needs anything, more information
19 from us --

20 THE COURT: I have not looked at it yet.

21 MR. MARTIN: That's fine, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: My plan was to deal with it on Tuesday
23 morning if we can do it. It gives me time, okay?

24 MR. MARTIN: That's fine, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: So, right now, I'm shooting up to

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1 Michigan State for an FBA event. Well, it's not nice. it's
2 all night and -- which I have to do, so...

3 MR. MARTIN: Understood, your Honor. Tuesday is
4 fine. That's perfectly fine.

5 THE COURT: I wish I didn't, but I have to. Okay.

6 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, your Honor.

7 MR. NORWOOD: Thank you, your Honor.

8 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 1:36 p.m.)

9 * * * * *

10 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

11 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcription
12 of the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

13

14 s/ April A. Kurtz, CSR-7347, RPR, FCRR
15 April A. Kurtz, CSR-7347, RPR, FCRR
Official Court Reporter

10/23/2024
Date

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